Hair Today, Gone Tomorrow - Good Riddance!

By Roxann Allen

Columnist

As some of you may have noticed, I recently chopped all my hair off. I did it in the middle of May, right when it was starting to get hot. I'm not really complaining to my Wiskasa (WCSC) housemates that it was too hot and I'm just going to cut all my hair off so I don't deal with it any more--you know, what every girl says every year when summer starts. I didn't think I'd actually do it.

At the risk of revealing too much about myself, my hair-cutting experience was more than just a hair style change or getting rid of annoying long hair. You see that long hair was fake. It was chemically processed, straightened hair. I've had my hair chemically straightened ever since I was about nine or 10 years old. My mother was tired of hearing me scream every time she yanked all of the knots out of my natural hair in order to form two side-floating pig tails during my grade-school years. So she had me straighten it, making it much easier to deal with.

Not only was it easier to deal with, but more fashionable and made me fit in with my friends. When we moved from Washington, DC, to Pittsburgh, PA., I also made a move in the racial make-up of my friends. In Pittsburgh all of my friends were white, so having "white" hair was cool--I could buy pony tail holders, barrettes, I could braid my hair, use hair spray, a curling iron, a huge flat brush--anything you wanted. I was fake. I was fake.

But looking at it now, I had to get a "new me," a high need to perfectly style her hair (and boys, we didn't style our hair too much, we washed it, put it up in a hair tie, and called it "fake" hair) and style our friends' (and boys, we didn't style our hair too much, we washed it, put it up in a hair tie, and called it "fake" hair). So this was me all the way through school and college.

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The media coverage that followed, a nation of heroes was born as a result. Firefighters and rescue workers across the country searched the destruction at Ground Zero for any survivors. America rose from the ashes of 9/11 as a country that has never been so strong as we are today.

But now, 11 years later, we have to wonder if it was worth it. Why did we have to go to war? Were we really victorious in the war on terrorism? I think not.

Hair Off

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